

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9565

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AO, UR

SUBJ: SOVIET PRESS ON ANGOLA

1. SUMMARY. PRAVDA REPORTS A MEETING BETWEEN PONOMAREV AND A DELEGATION FROM THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICA. OTHER COVERAGE CONCENTRATES ON GREETING TO MPLA EXTENDED BY VARIOUS PARTIES ON OCCAISION OF 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF START OF STRUGGLE AGAINST PORTUGUESE. END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA (FEB 5) REPORTS THAT POLITBURO CANDIDATE MEMBER PONOMAREV MET WITH AN AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS OF SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION HEADED BY ITS GENERAL SECRETARY, A.

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N'ZO. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA, THE SOVIET PARTICIPANTS

DECLARED THEIR "SOLIDARITY WITH THE STRUGGLE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PATRIOTS," WHILE THE ANC DELEGATION REPORTEDLY "DISCUSSED THE BATTLE FOR THE LIQUIDATION OF THE APARTHEID REGIME IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE LIBERATION OF THE COUNTRY FROM THE OPPRESSION OF THE RACISTS." BOTH SIDES, ACCORDING TO PRAVDA," DECLARED THEIR COMPLETE SUPPORT" FOR THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA, AND SAID THE "ALLIANCE OF THE FORCES OF SOCIALISM AND NATIONAL LIBERATION" WILL SUCCESSFULLY PREVAIL OVER THE "RACISTS AND THEIR ACCOMPLICES."

3. ELSEWHERE, PRAVDA REPORTS THE COMPLETION OF THE AAPSO CONFERENCE IN LUANDA, AND MENTIONS THE TWO DOCUMENTS ADOPTED AT THE MEETING. AN ACCOMPANYING ARTICLE REPLAYS MESSAGES TO THE MPLA ON THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ADVENT OF ITS CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE PORTUGUESE; SENDING GREETINGS ARE INTER ALIA CUBA, NORTH KOREA, AND THE PORTUGUESE CP. PRAVDA'S EDITORIAL ALSO ADDRESSES THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA, AND IS INTERESTING FOR THE ABSENCE OF DIRECT ATTACK ON THE U.S. AND FOR ITS IMPLICATIONS THAT THE WAR IS OVER AND THE IMMEDIATE TASK IS TO REBUILD ANGOLA'S ECONOMY.

4. COMMENT. THE VISIT OF AN ANC DELEGATION RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY BUILD-UP, AND THE PRAVDA ACCOUNT PROVIDES LITTLE INSIGHT INTO THE SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS. THE FACT OF THE VISIT AND OTHER RECENT PRESS COMMENTARY, COULD INDICATE THAT MOSCOW--IN THE WAKE OF ITS ANGOLA VENTURE--COULD BE SHIFING ITS SIGHTS TO THE "LIBERATION" CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE REGIMES FURTHER SOUTH.
STOESSEL

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